

ORIGINAL

Bob Stump

E-01345A-12-0290
E-01345A-10-0394
E-01933A-12-0296
E-04204A-12-0297

From: william murr [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2013 4:02 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; Stump-Web; BitterSmith
Subject: APS efforts to reduce credits for net metering



To: Arizona Corporation Commission
Fr: William and Margaret Murr
Re: APS attempt to reduce net metering credit
Dt: May 17 2012

We have attempted without success , to get case information on the above referenced issue. As you know , it was reported on in the Arizona Republic on May 16.

We installed almost \$45,000 worth of solar panels etc approximately 4 years ago. Our system was designed to cover our usage - not to produce a lot of excess power.

Our payback is long and a major part of our due diligence involved analyzing the effect of our installation on our electric bill. The results to date have been disappointing - as APS continues to get their way with rate increases.

APS tells us that the 9 to 9 plan we are on , has been withdrawn for new customers- however we are currently grandfathered in. We assume that is not a result of their largesse - but this Commission!

Our current rates are as follows:

A- Summer (May- Oct)
17.892 - on peak
5.77 - off peak

B- Winter (Nov- Apr)
14.533 - on peak
5.561 - off peak

APS is currently pushing an alternative 7PM to noon plan and representing it as a better deal - which it is not- based on our analysis. For example , peak in the summer is - 24.477 - almost a hundred percent increase. Obviously , this is the rate they want to get the maximum number of customers into.

The Republic article has a number of misstatements - which I believe the author was given by APS . Or , perhaps it only reflects the constant rate scenario. Interesting that they admit charging 15.5 per KWH for a KWH which they claim now costs them 3.6 a KWH to generate. How is that allowed to happen by the Commission? They bill separately for all their other costs - this is over a 400% markup per KWH.

Most importantly , regarding the credits we accumulate during the peak times - these are credited against peak usage - KWH for KWH. Those peak credits are not used against off - peak KWH. Off peak is tracked separately and obviously our net off peak consumption is many times what our on peak net is.

We trust the Commission is aware that the Republic article does not address consumers with significant solar investments who are merely trying to cover their own power bills. If net metering were handled the way APS proposes, there is no option left , other than to go off grid at significant additional expense.

I presume the APS end game is to get the peak rate higher and the value of what is being generated by solar power customers reduced to next to nothing. The end result is the creation of thousands of worthless installations - at great cost to consumers. That should not be allowed to happen by the Commission.

If there is a case on file re this issue , please direct these comments to that file for later consideration.

Thank you,

Margaret Murr
William Murr

Bob Stump

From: steve weinstein [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2013 3:36 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; Stump-Web; BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web; Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: APS Request for Solar Energy Credit Rollback

I sent the below letter to the CEO of APS expressing my concern for their upcoming proposal to roll back the credits owners of solar panels are receiving for producing excess energy back to APS. We owners bought into the Solar Panel program based on APS telling us we can expect to recoup our investment in 6-8 years and now they want to roll back our credits. This is outrageous and we hope the Commissioners will deny their request. My letter to APS is below. Thank you for reading.

Steve Weinstein
[REDACTED]
Surprise, AZ 85387

May 17, 2013

Donald Brandt, CEO
APS
400 N 5th St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Mr. Brandt:

We installed Solar Panels on our residential home back in March of 2010. We refinanced our home to take out cash to purchase the program for \$19,000. We received a rebate from APS which we appreciated and the 30% Federal tax credits. We were told that we would be able to recoup our investment in 6-7 years and we are on target to accomplish that. We really thought we made a good decision.

However, after reading in today's Arizona Republic that APS is getting set to ask the regulators to roll back the energy credits that we produce in excess of our usage, we are very upset and feel that we are being cheated on a program that was sold to us based on credits to our account for excess production going back to APS.

How can you in good faith reduce the credits we are producing after making a major purchase of \$19,000 thus resulting in an electric bill that goes back up similar to what we had before putting Solar Panels on our home?

This seems similar to a big "Scam" on the part of APS and puts all the people who purchased Solar Panels at a financial disadvantage to those who never did make the purchase.

We ask you to reconsider what you are asking the regulators to do or at least "Grandfather" those who already purchased solar panels to the current formula for energy credits.

Sincerely Yours,

Steve Weinstein

[REDACTED]

cc. REC Solar

Trisha A. Morgan

From: Phil H [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 11, 2013 11:33 AM
To: Stump-Web
Subject: APS attack on solar

My name is Phil Hanus and I wanted to get your view on what is transpiring with APS and their idea to get rid of the net metering program. I believe Arizona is perfect for solar and that we should take advantage of all the sun light that we receiver per year. I myself was thinking about purchasing a solar system for my home, but the idea that the net metering plan will cease to exist worries me to hold off.

For me to purchase a solar system would help the local economy as I would be putting engineers, electricians, and other labor to work. Also I would be contributing to the local power grid. Without net metering it would not make economical sense for me to put forth a large sum of money for my own infrastructure costs that APS does not have to pay for and is benefiting from. I'm sure there are lots of taxpayers standing by waiting to see how this decision plays out. With so much uncertainty I am having to stand back and wait to see the outcome of the net metering policy. I urge you to vote to keep net metering going or at the very least allow new solar installers to claim net metering until they breakeven with their investment so at least Arizona will still go down the road of solar.

Thanks for your time,
Phil Hanus

Trisha A. Morgan

From: Steve Yahner [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 12, 2013 11:50 AM
To: BitterSmith-Web; Burns-Web; 'mailmaster'; Pierce-Web; RBurns-Web; Stump-Web
Cc: 'Lynn Dorsett'; dontkillsolar@gmail.com; 'Lee Hubbard'
Subject: APS Net metering - Docket E-01345A-12-0290

The reason I installed my 7.5 KW system in July, 2009 was because net metering was finally offered by APS, the same that was being offered by SRP for a number of years. With net metering and various credits for solar, the payback period would be about 7 years. Thus it made financial sense. Without net metering, the payback would never happen. Net metering, as I understand it, is not just an end of year reconciliation of any KWHr credit due the APS customer. I received 1486 KWHr credit for 2012 and about the same for each of the previous 2 years. APS gave me a credit of \$91.94.

Net metering works on a minute to minute basis. If I produce more KWHr than I need, they go to APS and vice versus. If I produce more than I consume each month, that amount is carried forward till the end of the year. The total for 2012 that I sent to APS was 8976 KWHr of the total 13460 KWHr that my system generated. My house is a net zero house.

I have three thoughts that I want the AZ CC to consider when reviewing APS' request to end net metering:

1. When I made my decision to install solar, I believed I had an implicit agreement with APS that net metering would be there in the future. Otherwise, why would anyone, except maybe SRP customers, install solar. It would never pay for itself.
2. If net metering is discontinued, APS will be getting approximately 8976 KWHr per year from my system, without reimbursing me. And without my having any option to sell my KWHr to another energy provider. That might be considered theft.
3. This action by APS will severely reduce or eliminate the residential solar market in the APS customer base area. And all the jobs that go with it.

If you decide in favor of APS, several options should be made available to APS customers with solar systems:

1. All existing systems are grandfathered for net metering.
2. Existing and future solar customers have an option of having another energy provider, such as, SRP or TEC. This option certainly would incent APS to keep net metering. Competition does that.

Thank you for reading my opinion.

Steve Yahner
[REDACTED]

Trisha A. Morgan

From: Scott Swenka [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2013 8:36 AM
To: Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; Stump-Web; BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: COMMENTS: Solar Credits, APS Applications

AZCC Commissioners;

After reading the article today in AZCentral regarding how APS is now trying to change how they credit owners of roof-top solar systems I felt inclined that I needed to comment on the issue.

As an owner of a fairly large roof-top system (12 kilowatt) the contract I signed with my solar provider and in turn with APS to be put on the EPR-6 Rate Plan was a great deal for me.

For excess credits - I am guaranteed the greater of - retail price for kilowatt daytime cost, or no less than 8.3 cents per kilowatt, plus a 3.5% increase per year. Any changes to that would require a new contract to be signed with me, and I personally don't think that APS can make those kinds of wholesale changes without incurring a huge legal liability in the process.

I am of the opinion that they are simply whining about this because their execs want to have fat bonuses and salary increases as it is with all their rate increase requests, taking money out of their pockets was the primary driver for me to go this route as I felt that I was paying far too much for the amount of energy I was using being a single guy, who lives alone. This system I put in allows me to turn the tables on them, and I am laughing all the way to the bank.

Even as we approach summer temps with AC running my system is generating right at or nearly double of what I use on a monthly basis, meaning that I am racking up the credits on a rather large scale, as of my May billing I have OVER 3000 kwh banked.

I recommend that the rates stay at their current settings, and APS needs to learn how budget their salaries, bonuses, to within their means, instead of paying millions of dollars per year to their exec team, all the while screwing the little guy. Please don't fall APS "Cry of Wolf in Sheeps Clothing" hails....

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Scott Swenka, B.S, M.S, BVA, NOMAN, NSA IAM/IEM American Desert Foundation - Chairman of the Board of Directors
CORVA - Supporting Member R&R Duners Member Good Sam Club Lifetime Member NRA Lifetime Member

Bob Stump

From: Crawford, Robert - PHX [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2013 1:26 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Burns-Web; Stump-Web; BitterSmith-Web; RBurns-Web
Subject: Net Metering/APS--A consumer's point of view

Dear Commissioners,

I am a Scottsdale resident, and installed a 20 year solar generating system under a lease arrangement with Sun Power over a year ago. I'm proud to say I am a "net zero" consumer of electricity and made my decision to install this system given the fair and reasonable approach APS has in place to provide a credit for each kwh generated and not consumed by my household.

I am becoming increasingly concerned that APS now wishes to possibly modify the terms of the net generating formula for crediting solar generation—I am one of thousands of Arizona residents who made an investment to secure a reliable form of energy, reducing CO2 and demand on coal generating plants. I plan to closely follow the upcoming hearings so that you understand changes would have potentially negative financial consequences on the investment I made.

I urge you to look closely at the underlying issues—a large public utility such as APS has substantial resources at hand to recognize and plan for the implementation of solar system generating units now supplying the grid. I continue to pay for metering and billing services produced by APS, all done electronically without generating paper. Even my year end credit of \$59.00 was applied as a credit balance to offset future metering and billing services. I might add that the value when APS had to pay me the credit was done at a vastly reduced rate of \$0.06/kwh, not near the \$0.15/kwh I have to pay if I utilize more energy than I produce.

I look forward to participating and expressing my concerns when the formal hearings are scheduled and you invite input from the community.

Thank you for your consideration—

Respectfully,

Robert Crawford, Jr

[REDACTED]
Scottsdale, AZ 85260-6520
[REDACTED]

Trisha A. Morgan

From: bill [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2013 2:17 AM
To: Stump-Web
Subject: do not stop net metering/keep solar alive

Dear sir

In all fairness I was given false info from aps when we had our solar installed.. my wife will attest to this as well. It was a kind of say what they think you want to hear so you will go away attitude. We paid over \$15k for a system and almost immediately after install they raised my bill. Even on months when we don't use electricity (due to net metering) we still pay a litany of charges and our bill is never \$0.. so if I provide electricity for them to sell my neighbor for more than they give me to produce it for them, and I pay monthly charges that are directly related to the things they claim to be losing money on, how is it possible they aren't making money. Besides this was supposed to be about helping the environment as well as doing something to ensure energy costs would stay low for my family. One of the big selling points of this whole debacle was about keeping bills low. There are things that I would be happy to share with you and I wish to remind that I voted for the present set of commissioners because I hoped they would keep conservative values and ideas afloat. I hope I won't find my votes wasted, that would be a shame in the next election cycle.

We were told specifically by aps that our credits would roll over from December to Jan.(and they don't) and that they would be happy to help us find the rate that would save the most money(hearing about this debate one can see the hypocrisy behind the scenes). One last comment for tonight the amount they do pay is ridiculously low compared to what they charge when at years end they consumer is forced to take payment. We have broken all aspects down and to benefit we must be very frugal in our energy useage.

Keep solar alive aps is still churning profits, and I believe in my humble opinion that all new construction should have mandatory solar to stave off outages and high energy prices.

As elected officials, do what is right and stand with those who you work for.

Bill Hranek

I have been reading a lot lately about APS's intension to reduce the rate at which it will reimburse us for the excess energy we put back on the grid. I have been doing everything possible to conserve energy and hope that my decision to go solar was not the wrong one. APS was happy enough to bring us on board because of the requirement that 15% of their power had to be from renewable sources by a certain date. Looks like APS is changing their minds and wants to reduce the rate with which it reimburses us for the excess energy we put back on the grid. With a reduction to the "net metering" or this arrangement, our solar system does not have nearly the same value. It makes a lot of sense for us year rounders to pursue solar energy. Many of my neighbors have already or are planning to convert and it would be a shame of it to be all for naught. Please urge your fellow Commissioners not to betray AZ consumers. Thank you,

Sandria Peli

Peoria, AZ 85383